# STATE OF ALABAMA BOARD OF LICENSURE FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS AND LAND SURVEYORS



IN RE THE MATTER OF:

**COURTNEY A. RICE** 

Case No. 10-34-C

### CONSENT ORDER

Courtney A. Rice, an un-certificated individual (hereinafter referred to as "Respondent") hereby stipulates and agrees, subject to approval of the State of Alabama Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors (hereinafter referred to as the "Board") as follows:

#### STIPULATED FACTS

Respondent stipulates she has never held a valid engineer intern certificate issued by the Board indicating she successfully completed the requirements for engineer intern certification in the State of Alabama.

Respondent stipulates the Board received an application for the Fundamentals of Engineering examination dated January 14, 2010 which indicated Respondent was applying for the April 17, 2010 exam to be administered at Broun Hall of Auburn University, located in Auburn, Alabama. Respondent stipulates she subscribed to, and agreed to conform with, the Rules of Professional Conduct of the Board set forth in the Administrative Code, Rule 330-X-14 on the application for the Fundamentals of Engineering examination dated January 14, 2010.

Respondent stipulates she participated in the Fundamentals of Engineering examination administration on April 17, 2010 administered at Broun Hall of Auburn University located in Auburn, Alabama. Respondent further stipulates she placed identifying information and responses to examination questions on a scantron answer sheet.

Respondent stipulates on June 1, 2010, the Board received a complaint from The National Council of Examiners for Engineers and Surveyors (NCEES) in reference to possible irregularities in Respondent's April 17, 2010 Fundamentals of Engineering examination results contained on her scantron answer sheet.

Respondent stipulates during the April 17, 2010 Fundamentals of Engineering examination she obtained answers to examination questions by observing another exam candidate's scantron answer sheet.

## STIPULATED CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Respondent, a non-certificated individual admits in such capacity she is subject to the provisions of Title 34, Chapter 11, Code of Alabama 1975, § 34-11-11 and the jurisdiction of the Board.

Respondent stipulates her conduct as set forth in the foregoing "Stipulated Facts" constitutes violations of Title 34, Chapter 11, <u>Code of Alabama</u> 1975, § 34-11-11(a)(2) and the Board's *Administrative Code* § 330-X-14-.06(2).

Respondent stipulates her conduct set forth in the "Stipulated Facts" is a violation of those rules and statues set forth above, and that she is subject to disciplinary action under Title 34, Chapter 11, Code of Alabama 1975, § 34-11-11.

#### STIPULATED DISPOSITION

- 1. Respondent shall not in the future violate the provisions of Title 34, Chapter 11, <u>Code</u> of Alabama 1975 and the rules and regulations of the administrative code of the Board.
- 2. Respondent understands this Consent Order and subsequent Final Order will become a matter of public record.
- Respondent agrees to complete a three hour continuing professional competency course in engineering ethics provided by the Murdough Center for Engineering Professionalism, of Texas Tech University.

- 4. Respondent understands she can not submit an application for the Fundamentals of Engineering examination for a period of one (1) year from the date of the Final Order and upon successful completion of the Murdough Center for Engineering Professionalism, of Texas Tech University ethics course.
- 5. Respondent understands this Consent Order is subject to the approval of the Board and has no force and effect until a Final Order based upon it is rendered by the Board.
- 6. Respondent agrees any violation of the terms of this Consent Order, may result in the Board filing additional charges in accordance with the Title 34, Chapter 11, Code of Alabama 1975, § 34-11-11.
- 7. Respondent understands in order to make a decision relative to approving this Consent Order discussions must take place between Board Members, Board Staff and Board Counsel. Respondent understands this discussion would take place at a regularly scheduled Board meeting in Montgomery Alabama. Respondent understands she has the right to be present when this matter is discussed but hereby waives that right.
- 8. Respondent understands she has the right to seek the advice of legal counsel. Respondent also understands she has the right to a formal fact finding hearing before the Board, to compel the testimony of witnesses, to cross-examine witnesses against her, and to obtain judicial review of the Board's decision in said formal hearing but expressly waives these rights with execution of this Consent Order and Final Order of the Board.
- 9. Respondent expressly waives all further procedural steps, and expressly waives all rights to seek judicial review or to otherwise challenge or contest the validity of the Consent Order, the stipulated facts, conclusions of law and imposition of administrative action contained herein, and the Final Order of the Board incorporating said Consent Order.
- 10. Respondent, for the purpose of avoiding further administrative action with respect to this cause executes this Consent Order. Should the Consent Order not be accepted by the

Board, it is agreed that presentation to and consideration of the Consent Order by the Board shall not unfairly or illegally prejudice the Board or any of its members from further participation in or resolution of these proceedings. Likewise, if this Consent Order is not accepted, the Board shall not take into consideration the contents of this Order as evidence of an admission.

SIGNED this the 18 day of Joly, 2010.

**APPROVE** 

Assistant Atterney General

STATE OF ALABAMA BOARD OF LICENSURE FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS AND LAND SURVEYORS

IN RE THE MATTER OF:

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FINAL ORDER

On September 16, 2010, the Alabama Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors convened for a regularly scheduled Board meeting. The Board Members in attendance at the meeting were: Mr. William C. Ulrich, Jr., Mr. Don T. Arkle, Mr. C. Michael Arnold, Mr. W. Gerald Wilbanks, Dr. Daniel S. Turner, Mr. Phillip E. Santora and Mr. Earl R. Foust. Mr.

Benjamin Albritton, Assistant Attorney General, appeared as counsel for the Board.

This Final Order is based upon a Consent Order signed by Ms. Courtney A. Rice, (hereafter referred to as Respondent) and dated July 18, 2010. In the Consent Order, Respondent stipulated she violated the <u>Code of Alabama</u> 1975, § 34-11-11(a)(2) and the Board's *Administrative Code* § 330-X-14-.06(2).

Upon Consideration of the above it is **ORDERED** that the Consent Order dated July 18, 2010 is adopted by the Board and hereby made a part of this Final Order. It is further **ORDERED** that Respondent abide by the Final Order in this manner.

ENTERED this the 16th day of September, 2010

C. Michael Arnold

Daniel S. Turner

W Gerald Wilhanks

Phillip E. Santora

RECUSED

Earl R. Foust